ESH&Q Report

Bob Casey

Associate Chair for Environmental, Safety, Health and Quality

The NSLS had a good year safety-wise during FY 2001. More than 1200 experiments were conducted safely and over 2500 users conducted research in our facility without incident or injury. All parameters used to track ESH performance continue to indicate that the NSLS is a safe place to work:

- The total whole body radiation exposure (gamma + neutron) to all personnel working at NSLS in Fiscal year 2001 was 68 mrem. Of 7408 badges worn and processed during the year, only 12 (0.16%) had a recordable whole body dose.
- One recordable (as determined by OSHA criteria) injury was experienced at NSLS in FY 2000. There were no lost work cases; and no recordable occupational injuries were experienced among the user community.
- No spills or releases to the environment occurred as the result of NSLS activities.
- The generation of hazardous and industrial waste at the NSLS remained well below the generation rates of several years ago; wastes associated with the experimental program declined for the fifth year in a row. The total amount of hazardous/industrial wastes produced by the experimental program in FY 2001 was 745 pounds, compared to almost 1800 pounds in FY 97.
- There were 2 reportable occurrences during the fiscal year, neither involving the NSLS user program.
- Compliance with training requiring, including Beam line operational and safety training (BLOSA), remains at a very high (>95%) implementation rate.

Because of the effort of the many people, the NSLS is a safe place to work. I want to acknowledge the ongoing commitment and dedication of the NSLS management and staff, and that of our user community. A pat on the back is due again to everyone involved.

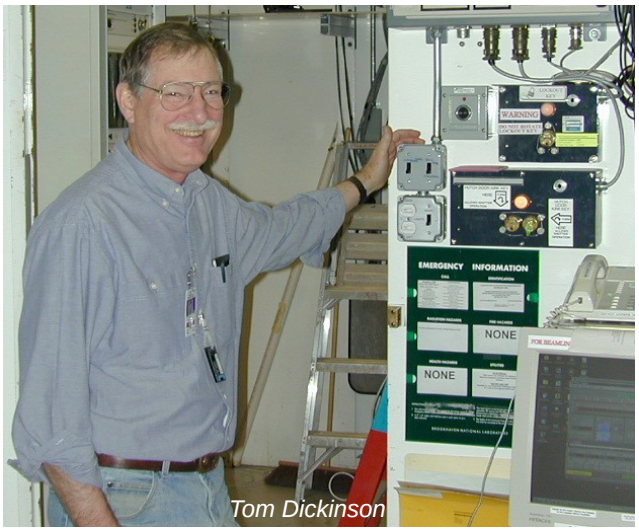
Continued vigilance is important, however, if we are to maintain this record and prevent harm to individuals or the environment. Proper planning, identification and control of hazards, and adherence to requirements are the keys to our successful program. Keep that in mind during FY 2002. We count on the following elements from all our users at the NSLS:

- Make sure that your safety approval forms are submitted in a timely and complete manner.
- Ensure that all necessary training is completed for the activities that you perform - keep in mind that there is specific additional training required if you generate hazardous wastes, if you operate a laser, or if you need to operate material handling equipment such as a hoist.
- Ensure that any conditions required in the safety review are understood by all members of the experimental team and are adhered to throughout the experiment.
- Minimize the amount of chemicals that are used in your experiment and ensure that they are safely stored at the NSLS and properly transported to and from the NSLS.

Together we will make sure that our excellent safety performance continues into the future.

I want to provide special acknowledgement this year to the contributions of Tom Dickinson during the 20 year history of the NSLS. Tom retired on 12/21/01 and his dedication, skill and hard work will be sorely missed at the NSLS.

Tom brought a deep insight into safety; he sought to keep the program rigorous while emphasizing simplicity and minimizing bureaucracy. The NSLS safety program has Tom's stamp in every fiber of its character, and it is widely recognized within the Laboratory and beyond as being uncommonly effective. His contributions to the NSLS and to the greater synchrotron light source community have been enormous and we wish him the best in the years ahead. Great job Tom, and thanks for all your efforts!



Tom Dickinson